ALL WINNERS COMICS

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ALL WINNERS is published bi-monthly by CURRENT DETECTIVE STORIES, INC. Office of Publication: 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Application for second-class entry pending at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Additional entry at Medina, Ohio. Copyright 1948 by CURRENT DETECTIVE STORIES, INC., 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Vol. 1, No. 1, AUGUST 1948 issue. Price 60c per year. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions appearing in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U. S. A.

THE HUMAN TORCH

"GAY BLADE of TERROR!"

THE COLD, FLASHING STEEL OF A KILLER'S SWORD STRIKES TERROR INTO THE LIVES OF A GROUP OF SOCIALITES WHO FACE A DANGER THAT ONLY ***THE HUMAN TORCH*** AND ***TORO*** HAVE THE COURAGE TO COMBAT!

2608

WHO IS THE CAUSE OF THIS LAUGHTER?

HA! HA! HA! HA!

HA! HA! HA!

HO! HO! HO!

WHY, NONE OTHER THAN SOCIETY'S FAVORITE SCREWBALL, JOHNNY REVERE...

JOHNNY'S A SCREAM! HE CAN DO ***ANY-THING*** WITH KNIVES!

HE'S SUCH A *GAY BLADE!* I KNOW YOU'LL BE VERY HAPPY WITH HIM, GLORIA! WHEN IS THE WEDDING?

NEXT WEEK! JOHNNY *IS* A DEAR, ISN'T HE? HE MAKES ME FEEL CHEERFUL *JUST* BEING AROUND HIM!

BUT THERE IS A *MORE SERIOUS* SIDE TO JOHNNY REVERE'S ACTIVITIES!

YOUR LATE MOTHER'S ESTATE IS *BANKRUPT!* YOU'VE GONE THROUGH THE CONSIDERABLE FORTUNE SHE LEFT YOU! WHEN WILL YOU STOP THIS RECKLESS SPENDING?

I HAVEN'T BEGUN!

I'M AFRAID YOU *CAN'T* CONTINUE! THERE'S NO MONEY LEFT... AND YOU *NEVER* HAD A PAYING JOB IN YOUR LIFE!

DON'T FRET ABOUT *ME! I'LL ALWAYS* BE IN THE CHIPS!

LATER, IN HIS ROOM, JOHNNY REVERE BECOMES *THE GAY BLADE!*

I'VE STOLEN *BEFORE* FOR MY OWN *AMUSEMENT!* NOW I'LL BEGIN IN *EARNEST!*

MY TALENT WITH *BLADES* WILL STAND ME IN *GOOD* STEAD! TONIGHT, THE *GAY BLADE* CEASES TO BE AN *ADVENTURER* IN CRIME... AND IT BECOMES HIS *ENTIRE OCCUPATION!*

MEANWHILE...

TORCH AND TORO! I'M SO GLAD YOU ACCEPTED MY INVITATION TO SPEND THE WEEK HERE!

WE NEEDED A VACATION, MRS. DELMAR! AND BESIDES, WE'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOUR FAMOUS ICE CARNIVAL! WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING *THAT!*

THE CARNIVAL WILL LIVE UP TO ITS ADVANCE NOTICES, I'M SURE! GOOD NIGHT, AND I'LL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING!

GOOD NIGHT!

LATER, OUTSIDE THE DELMAR MANSION...

THIS SOUNDLESS, CIRCULAR BLADE IS ESPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR *CUTTING THROUGH GLASS!*

AND *THIS* THIN STILETTO SILENCES THE BURGLAR ALARM! NOW TO REACH THROUGH AND UNLOCK THE WINDOW!

THE DELMAR JEWELS ARE KEPT IN THE WALL SAFE BEHIND AN IMITATION BOOKSHELF! AS A GUEST HERE, I'VE SEEN IT MANY TIMES!

THE SENSITIVE PRONGS OF THIS BLADE FIT NEATLY INTO THE NUMBERED SLOTS OF THE COMBINATION!

SPARING!

TORCH, DID YOU HEAR *THAT?*

THE BURGLAR ALARM! FLAME ON!

IT SEEMS WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN EXCITING VACATION!

VACATION FROM *WHAT?*

THIS IS THE *OLD* ROUTINE TO *ME!*

THAT CURSED ALARM! IT WAS WIRED TO THE COMBINATION OF THE SAFE!

TOO BAD, ISN'T IT? THERE'S ALWAYS *SOMETHING* YOU CROOKS DON'T ANTICIPATE!

GLUHH!

I MIGHT SAY THE *SAME* FOR *YOU!*

WHA...?

YOUR COMRADE DIDN'T ANTICIPATE *THAT!* BUT I GIVE *YOU* FAIR WARNING! ONE STEP FURTHER, AND YOU DIE!

ANOTHER OF THE *GAY BLADE'S* TOYS, EH?

BUT IT'S A *USELESS* WEAPON AGAINST *ME!*

(ULP!) THE BLADE *MELTED!*

NO MORE TRICKS IN YOUR LOCKER? I'M DISAPPOINTED!

OOOFF!

THANKS, TORO! I COULD'VE *SCORCHED* MY WAY OUT, BUT MRS. DELMAR MIGHT OBJECT TO RUINING HER FURNITURE! *HEY!* WHAT'S *THIS?*

I *DO* OBJECT! BUT *NOT* FOR THE REASON YOU SUGGEST!

I *OBJECT* TO HAVING THE HOSPITALITY OF MY HOME ABUSED BY COMMON THIEVES! DON'T ANY OF YOU MOVE, UNTIL THE POLICE ARRIVE!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, MRS. DELMAR!

WE'VE FOUND THE THIEF! TORO KNOCKED HIM OUT OF THAT WINDOW!

OH! I'M SORRY! I THOUGHT...

I CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR SUSPECTING US! BUT I'M AFRAID THE DELAY ENABLED THE REAL THIEF TO ESCAPE!

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

SOUNDED LIKE A PLANE, BUT I DON'T SEE IT ANYWHERE!

IT MUST HAVE BEEN WAITING NEARBY FOR A QUICK GETAWAY!

NOT FAR DISTANT...

THIS TIME I'M SAVED BY A *HELIOCOPTER BLADE* - AN *INTERESTING* INVENTION OF MINE!

WHIRRR

LANDING AT HIS ESTATE...

ZOUNDS! IT'S GLORIA! SHE MUST HAVE BEEN VISITING ME, AND DISCOVERED I'M *NOT* AT HOME!

A QUICK CHANGE, AND THE *GAY BLADE* BECOMES JOHNNY REVERE ONCE AGAIN!

IF SHE MENTIONS MY ABSENCE, IT MAY POINT SUSPICION TO ME! BUT *IF* I WORK QUICKLY, GLORIA *WILL HELP* SUPPORT MY ALIBI!

WELL, HELLO! I WAS JUST *WONDERING* WHAT BECAME OF YOU!

I'VE BEEN TAKING A WALK, AND COMMUNING WITH NATURE!

BUT I'D RATHER COMMUNE WITH *YOU*, BEAUTIFUL!

HOP IN! MY AUNT PHONED A WHILE AGO! THERE'S BEEN A ROBBERY AT HER HOUSE!

AND SO, JOHNNY REVERE RETURNS TO THE SCENE OF THE GAY BLADE'S ROBBERY!

THIS FELLOW IS NO ORDINARY CROOK! AFTER REMOVING A SECTION OF GLASS FROM THE WINDOW, HE THREW THIS STILETTO TO SILENCE THE BURGLAR ALARM!

I COULD DO THE *SAME* THING MYSELF!

I DOUBT IT! THAT THROW COVERED *TWENTY FEET!* NOT FIVE MEN IN THE COUNTRY COULD HANDLE A KNIFE BLADE WITH SUCH ACCURACY!

JOHNNY CAN DO *ANYTHING* WITH KNIVES OR BLADES OF ANY KIND! I'VE SEEN HIM WITH MY OWN EYES!

A KNACK, THAT'S ALL! YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, TORCH! I'M *NOT* IN THE SAME LEAGUE WITH YOUR BANDIT!

NEXT DAY, AT THE TOWN LIBRARY...

HI, TORCH! BONING UP ON THE NEWS OF THE WORLD?

JUST LOOKING UP THE BACKGROUND OF A CERTAIN JOHNNY REVERE! HIS ABILITY WITH KNIVES STIRRED UP MY INTEREST IN HIM!

THESE SMALL TOWN NEWSPAPERS ARE FULL OF *PERSONAL* ITEMS! AND JOHNNY'S QUITE A POPULAR FELLOW, TO JUDGE FROM THE DATA! DID YOU KNOW HE'S AN INVENTOR, FOR INSTANCE?

I DON'T GET IT, TORCH! WHAT'S THE PITCH?

JOHNNY'S ENGAGED TO MRS. DELMAR'S NIECE! AND THE THIEF WHO ROBBED THE DELMAR MANSION KNEW HIS WAY AROUND THE PLACE! HE WAS *GOOD* WITH *KNIVES*, TOO... AND HE WORE A *DISGUISE!*

BUT THERE'VE BEEN ROBBERIES SIMILAR TO THIS BEFORE BY THE FELLOW WHO CALLS HIMSELF *THE GAY BLADE!* YOU DON'T THINK THAT JOHNNY REVERE...?

SO FAR HE'S OUR *ONLY* SUSPECT! I INTEND TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON HIM!

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW...

LOOK, JOHNNY, THERE'S TORCH AGAIN!

YEAH!

EVERYWHERE I GO LATELY, TORCH IS *AROUND!* IT'S A CINCH HE SUSPECTS SOMETHING! *HE'S SHADOWING ME!*

HE'S *ASKING* FOR IT! I CAN'T MOVE ANY MORE UNTIL I GET RID OF HIM! AND THERE'S ONLY *ONE* WAY TO DO IT!

NEXT MORNING...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, TORCH?

NOTHING'S THE MATTER! ONLY WE'VE TAKEN *SOME* OF THE GAYETY OUT OF OUR FRIEND, THE GAY BLADE! HE'S *FRIGHTENED!*

WHAT MAKES YOU SO *SURE?*

I NOTICED *THESE WEREN'T* MY *REGULAR* BRAND OF RAZOR BLADES! WHEN I EXAMINED THEM I FOUND THEY WERE COATED WITH DEADLY POISON THAT WOULD HAVE SEEPED INTO ANY CUT IN MY SKIN!

(ULP) THE *GAY BLADE ISN'T* FOOLING!

BUT HE *OVERPLAYED* HIS HAND! I'M *SURE* I KNOW HIS IDENTITY NOW! AND I'M GOING AFTER HIM IN EARNEST!

THE MORNING OF THE ICE CARNIVAL...

YOU WANT ME TO ANNOUNCE THAT, AS QUEEN OF THE CARNIVAL, I'LL BE WEARING A CROWN WORTH *FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS*? BUT THAT'S *NOT* TRUE!

IT'S *BAIT*, GLORIA, FOR THE *GAY BLADE!*

IN THAT CASE, OF COURSE I'LL DO WHAT I CAN!

GOOD GIRL! THIS MAY TAKE EVEN *MORE COURAGE* THAN YOU KNOW! BUT YOU'LL COME THROUGH ALL RIGHT!

Timely News 5¢

ICE CARNIVAL QUEEN TO WEAR VALUABLE CROWN

GLORIA DELMAR ANNOUNCE STARTLING PLAN

SO BE IT, THEN, MY PRETTY GLORIA! I'LL TAKE YOUR BAUBLE AS *GENTLY AS POSSIBLE*, WITH NO BRUISE TO YOUR OWN TENDER FEELINGS!

AND SOON, THE GAY BLADE TRAVELS AGAIN...

THESE SKATES HAVE GROOVED BLADES TO TRAVEL ON WIRES! I'M SURE TO MAKE AN *UNEXPECTED* APPEARANCE!

MEANWHILE, AT THE ICE CARNIVAL...

I MUST SAY, IT'S STRANGE THAT JOHNNY *ISN'T* HERE ON THIS DAY OF ALL DAYS!

HE SENT A NOTE EXPLAINING THAT HE'S SUFFERING FROM A *BAD COLD!* HE WAS TERRIBLY SORRY!

DELICATELY, NOW! SHE MUST *NOT* SUSPECT WHAT IS HAPPENING! THE PINCER BLADES WILL CLOSE ON HER JEWELED BAUBLE, AND...

Captain Tootsie TAMES A TORNADO

By C·C·BECK

CAPTAIN TOOTSIE AND THE SECRET LEGION VISIT AN ARMY AIRFIELD IN THE SOUTHWEST

HOOTIN' ZOOTS! LOOK AT ALL THOSE SWELL NEW JET PLANES!

BOY! THIS IS GREAT, CAPTAIN TOOTSIE!

THOSE ARE THE ARMY'S P-84 THUNDERJETS!

YES, BOYS, THIS GREAT FIGHTER PLANE HAS A SPEED OF MORE THAN 600 MILES AN HOUR! IT'LL FLY HIGHER THAN 40,000 FEET, AND HAS A RANGE OF 1,000 MILES. THE CABIN IS AIR CONDITIONED, AND ELECTRICALLY OPERATED TO PROVIDE AN EMERGENCY EXIT!

AN OFFICER EXPLAINS THE CRAFT.

HERE'S ONE COMING IN FOR A LANDING! NOW! WHAT SPEED!

CONTROL TOWER'S CALLING THEM ALL IN! WEATHER'S GETTING BAD!

THIS IS TORNADO COUNTRY, YOU KNOW! WE'VE HAD SEVERAL BAD TWISTERS ALREADY, AND BY THE LOOKS OF THINGS HERE DUE FOR ANOTHER ANY MINUTE!

HERE COMES A TWISTER NOW! SEE THAT FUNNEL HEADING RIGHT FOR TOWN?

QUICK! SOUND THE ALARM! CALL ALL PILOTS... I'VE AN IDEA!

GOSH!

HERE, MEN... WE'LL NEED LOTS OF ENERGY. HAVE SOME **TOOTSIE ROLLS** AND **TOOTSIE FUDGE**, THAT'LL DO THE TRICK!

YEH! TOOTSIE FUDGE GIVES QUICK ENERGY, TOO - JUST LIKE TOOTSIE ROLLS!

INTO YOUR PLANES, MEN! FOLLOW CAPTAIN TOOTSIE! HE'S GOING TO BREAK UP THAT TORNADO BY FLYING THROUGH IT!

LET'S GO!

NOW HIT THAT TWISTER, BOYS! ALL TOGETHER!

THEY'RE OFF IN TIGHT FORMATION. FIVE POWERFUL JET PLANES FLY TO BIT THEIR MIGHT AGAINST THE RAGING TORNADO!

WILL CAPTAIN TOOTSIE'S DARING PLAN WORK? CAN HE SAVE THE TOWNSPEOPLE FROM DEATH AND DESTRUCTION?

YEOW! LOOK AT THOSE PLANES!

RRRRRR

WE DID IT! HE BROKE 'ER STEM CLEAN OFF!

POP!

THE TORNADO'S BROKEN UP! WE'RE SAVED!

HOORAY!

WOW! WHAT A THRILL! YOUR IDEA SAVED DOZENS OF LIVES AND HOMES! YOU'RE A HERO, CAPTAIN TOOTSIE!

GOSH! I'M ALL IN AFTER THAT!

ANOTHER ROUND OF **TOOTSIE FUDGE** WILL SPARK UP OUR ENERGY AGAIN, BOYS!

YOU SURE CAN'T BEAT TOOTSIE FUDGE!

HOOTIN' ZOOTS! THAT SWELL TOOTSIE FUDGE SURE SHOOTS JETS OF QUICK ENERGY TO YOUR MUSCLES. MAKES YOU WANT TO ZOOM LIKE A REGULAR THUNDERJET YOURSELF! TOOTSIE FUDGE IS SURE RICH 'N CREAMY - JUST GOSH-A-MIGHTY GOOD! COMES IN CHOCOLATE OR VANILLA FLAVORS. GET TOOTSIE FUDGE AT YOUR FAVORITE CANDY COUNTER TODAY!

TOOTSIE FUDGE

SUB-MARINER

A DESPERATE PLEA FOR HELP SENDS THE MIGHTY SUB-MARINER PLUNGING IN TO UNRAVEL A BAFFLING CRIME CASE — OF STRANGE BEGINNING AND STARTLING END! MURDER AND AN ODD CONFESSION ARE BESHROUDED BY SECRECY! THE LIFE OF A BEAUTIFUL GIRL HANGS BY A SLIM THREAD! AND THE DAZZLING-FISTED, KEEN-WITTED SUB-MARINER BATTLES AGAINST A RUTHLESS RING OF CRIMINALS - IN THE MYSTERY OF

"MURDER AT MARLIN MANSION!"

R 432

UP THE ATLANTIC SEA-COAST SWIMS SUB-MARINER— ON A MYSTERY MISSION!

THE MARLIN ESTATE! THIS MUST BE WHERE IT HAPPENED!

MARLIN ESTATE MEN WANTED FOR WORK IN ORCHARD

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH *ME* WORKING *NIGHTS* AROUND HERE!

ME, NEITHER! THEY'VE EVEN GOT TROUBLE GETTING MEN FOR THE DAY NOW...SINCE THIS PLACE GOT *HAUNTED!*

WHAT DO YOU MEAN- *HAUNTED?*

A MAN WAS MURDERED HERE LAST WEEK! RAYMOND MARLIN, OWNER OF THE ESTATE! SINCE THEN HIS *GHOST* WALKS! ANDY HERE SEEN IT!

TED MARLIN'LL BE HANGED SURE FOR KILLING HIS UNCLE RAYMOND!

HE'S EVEN CONFESSED...BUT I FEEL SORRY FOR TED'S GIRL, JOAN AMBLER!

SO DO I! AND THAT'S WHY I'M HERE!

NAMOR, NOW ALONE, EXTRACTS A NOTE FROM HIS BELT POCKET...

...AND I'M SURE TED *ISN'T* GUILTY, EVEN THOUGH HE CONFESSED! IT'S ALL VERY STRANGE! PLEASE COME TO GRANGERVILLE...PHONE ME AS SOON AS YOU DO!

SINCERELY, JOAN AMBLER

NOW FOR GRANGERVILLE! NICE GIRL, JOAN! MET HER WHILE SHE WAS VISITING NEW YORK! NOT THE KIND TO SEND AN S.O.S. WITHOUT REASON!... YES, SOMETHING *IS VERY STRANGE!*

NOT LONG AFTER ON A QUIET ROAD...

HOP IN! I'M SORRY I HAVE TO MEET YOU AWAY FROM MY HOUSE, BUT MY FAMILY OBJECTS TO MY HELPING TED! THEY'RE ***SURE*** HE'S GUILTY! ***EVERYONE*** THINKS SO!

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK HE'S INNO-CENT? HE ***DID*** CONFESS!

BUT THE ***WAY*** HE CONFESSED! I ***WAS*** IN SHERIFF GEORGE'S OFFICE SELLING HIM A TICKET TO THE CHARITY BALL WHEN TED CAME IN WILD-EYED...

SHERIFF, ARREST ME! ...I'M A MURDERER!... I JUST SHOT MY UNCLE RAYMOND TO DEATH! HERE'S MY GUN!

OH, TED! ...NO...! YOU'RE JOKING!

I RUSHED TO HIM, FLUNG MY ARMS ABOUT HIM - BUT...

GET AWAY FROM ME! ***GET AWAY!***

OH!

TED'S CONFESSION WAS TAKEN DOWN AND HE'S IN JAIL, AWAITING TRIAL! HE REFUSES TO LET ME VISIT HIM! IT'S ALL SO STRANGE BECAUSE HE WAS ALWAYS KIND, GENTLE, AND HE AND HIS UNCLE WERE ***SUCH*** GOOD FRIENDS! HIS UNCLE MADE HIM AN ***HEIR!***

HIS COUSIN BOB WAS ALSO AN HEIR! BUT BOB DROWNED IN A BOAT ACCIDENT! HIS BODY WAS NEVER RECOVERED; AND... ***OH!***

LOOK OUT! THAT CAR!

A FLASH SECOND LATER, A CRASH!

THEY'LL BE CRUSHED BELOW!

CRASH!!!

BUT WITH CYCLONIC SPEED – A STEEL-STRONG FIGURE LEAPS MIGHTILY FROM THE PLUNGING CAR – TOWARD THE SEA!

IN SHORT MINUTES...

THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, JOAN?

YES! THANKS TO *YOU!*... WAS-IT-AN ACCIDENT?

NO! THAT CAR RAMMED US ***DELIBERATELY***— SOMEONE OUT TO GET...

ABRUPTLY, NAMOR STOPS TALKING – PUTTING WORDS INTO ATOMIC-FAST ACTION!

SUNLIGHT GLINTING ON THE GUN GAVE YOU AWAY!

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

SUB-MARINER! BEHIND YOU!

SUB-MARINER SPINS AROUND - TO A NEW MENACE !

BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER ! NOW YOU'LL GET YOUR FEATHERS PICKED !

BUT - A SWIFT SECOND AFTER...

WHEN SUB-MARINER REVIVES, ALL IS SILENT - BUT A WHITE PAPER SPEAKS OMINOUS VOLUMES !

WE'VE GRABBED JOAN ! IF YOU GET FAR AWAY, STAY AWAY, AND SHE LIVES ! BUT STAY ON AND INTERFERE, AND ***SHE DIES !***

I'VE NO CHOICE ! THEY MIGHT KILL JOAN ANYWAY ! BUT I CAN'T DELIBERATELY JEOPARDIZE HER LIFE ! NO, I DON'T THINK THEY'RE HOLDING HER PURELY AS A HOSTAGE . . I THINK . . .

WHOEVER IS IN BACK OF THIS IS AFRAID SHE KNOWS TOO MUCH, OR WILL CATCH ON TO SOMETHING . . . LOT OF ANGLES . . . TED, THE MARLIN HEIR - HIS COUSIN BOB, ALSO AN HEIR, DROWNED BY ACCIDENT, AND BODY NOT RECOVERED, THEN . . .

THERE'S THE MARLIN ESTATE WITH ITS GHOST ! I'D LIKE TO DO SOME INVESTIGATING THERE ! I'D BE SPOTTED IF I RETURNED, BUT MEN ARE WANTED IN THE APPLE ORCHARD ! WELL THEY'VE GOT THEM-SELVES A NEW ***APPLE PICKER !***

SO IT IS ON THAT DAY THAT SUB-MARINER TAKES UP A NEW TRADE !

MY GRANDMOTHER WOULDN'T KNOW ME IN *THIS* DISGUISE !

WHO'S THE SIMON LEGREE ?

PICK 'EM FASTER, YOU LAZY LIVERS ! WATCH IT, YOU ! YOU'RE TEARIN' THE SKIN !

THAT'S AMOS BRIGGS! BEEN SUPER OVER THE MARLIN PROPERTY TEN YEARS NOW!

SO *HE* HANDLED RAYMOND MARLIN'S BUSINESS! I WONDER HOW WELL ?

NAMOR WORKS ON . . . WITH ONE EYE ON THE APPLES — THE OTHER ON THE APPLE OF HIS EYE — *BRIGGS!*

HE'S GOING OUT! HE FIRST LOOKED SLYLY AROUND TO BE SURE NO ONE WAS WATCHING! NOW, I'LL FOLLOW . . .

GAUTIOUSLY— SUB-MARINER TRAILS

HE'S *GONE!* . . . I WATCHED HIM THROUGH THE FOLIAGE, COMING OUT HERE! HE WALKED TOWARD THAT STUMP! HOW'D HE DISAPPEAR ? I'M GOING TO LOOK AT THAT TREE STUMP !

AS THE SEA PRINCE STEPS TOWARD THE DWARFED TRUNK . . .

THAT FINISHED THE SNOOPING APPLE-PICKER! *HE'LL DROWN!*

BUT IT IS A FAMED FAMILIAR FIGURE WHO HURTLES SEAWARD!

DROWN MY EYE, YOU DOPE!... THAT WAS ***SUB-MARINER!***

HOW SHOULD I KNOW? ...WE'VE GOT TO GET BUSY!

AT THE TOUCH OF WATER, THE SEA PRINCE REVIVES INSTANTLY!

I WAS OBVIOUSLY STRUCK DOWN TO KEEP ME FROM INVESTIGATING THAT TREE STUMP! MUST BE AN OPENING OF SOME KIND!

SUB-MARINER SHEDS HIS OUTER GARMENTS, WHEN SUDDENLY...

IT MAY LEAD TO WHERE JOAN IS BEING HELD! I'M SURE NOW THAT BRIGGS IS MIXED UP IN THIS BUSINESS. I'LL... (GULP) WHAT...? ***SOMETHING PULLING ME! (GULP)!***

YES! TREMENDOUS SUCTION DRAWS SUB-MARINER INLAND! THAT - AND MORE!

(GASP) (GASP) A STRANGE ODOR... FUMES... (GASP)!

FINALLY - THE STRICKEN SEA PRINCE IS DEPOSITED ON DRY LAND.

OUR SUCTION PUMP SURE TOOK HIS BREATH AWAY! THOUSANDS OF PRESSURE POUNDS!

ALONG WITH THE CHLORO-FUMES WE PIPED OUT! HE WON'T BE COMING TO FOR HOURS!

NIGHT - AND THE MARLIN ESTATE ASSUMES ITS EERIE QUALITY - WHILE SOMEPLACE INDOORS NAMOR COMES TO . . .

JOAN! . . . WHERE ARE WE?

UNDERGROUND - IN A STORE HOUSE ON THE MARLIN ESTATE! . . . WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

I DON'T KNOW! CAN IT BE SOME KIND OF SMUGGLING RACKET? *THAT* WOULD ACCOUNT FOR THE GHOST BUSINESS TO KEEP PEOPLE AWAY NIGHTS!

THE NEXT MORNING - AN ANSWER!

CORRECT, FISHFACE! WE ARE PUTTING ON THE SCARE STUFF FOR *JUST* THAT REASON! BUT YOU'RE TOO MUCH THE NOSY KIND! YOU AND JOAN! NOW, *YOU'RE BOTH GOING TO DIE!*

OFF ON

THIS MACHINE'S FOR APPLE-SQUEEZING! GETS THE JUICE OUT OF APPLES! I'LL TURN IT ON, REGULATE IT TO MOVE OVER YOUR WAY, AND IT'LL MAKE APPLE-JUICE OUT OF *YOU!*

BRIGGS, THE BOAT'S COMING IN WITH THE BIG FRUIT SHIPMENT!

WE'LL BE THERE AS SOON AS I START THE 'APPLE-SQUEEZER!

AS THE UNHOLY THREE LEAVE, THE MASSIVE IRON INSTRUMENT SLIDES AUTOMATICALLY ACROSS THE CEILING . . .

IT'S NEARLY *OVERHEAD!*

I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN YET! HAVEN'T THE STRENGTH TO BREAK THESE CHAINS *WHAT . . . ?* *. . . WHAT?* UMMM!

OF ON

THAT SUCTION PUMP... THOSE BOARDS ON THE SIDE IT FACES LOOK WATER-SOAKED...

IF I CAN START THAT SUCTION PUMP! I DON'T THINK THOSE BOARDS COULD WITHSTAND THE POWERFUL PRESSURE! I'VE ***GOT*** TO LIFT THIS SACK FAST - AND...

OFF

TRAINED MUSCLES RESPOND TO FULLEST EXERTION!

THE PUMP'S STARTING!

A RACE WITH TIME! DEVASTATING SUCTION BENDS BOARDS INWARD - THEN WEAK WOOD SHATTERS — AND THE SEA ROARS IN!

AH! WATER!

THE MACHINE... IT'S READY TO STRIKE!

BUT A SPLIT-SECOND LATER — A MIGHTY FIST INTERVENES!

NOW I'LL GET YOU OUT OF YOUR CHAINS! AND WE'LL GET OUT OF HERE!

SOON — NAMOR AND THE GIRL MOVE UNDERGROUND THROUGH A TUNNEL TO...

SURE ENOUGH!...THIS STUMP IS AN EXIT... STAY HERE, JOAN — I WANT TO SEE WHAT GIVES ON THAT BOAT!

ON DECK

ALL RIGHT! YOU **PAID** US THE MONEY! WE'LL TAKE YOU IN AND HIDE YOU UNDERGROUND ON THE ESTATE!

JAWOLD!

DON'T USE THAT WORD! YOU'RE ESCAPED NAZI FUGITIVES! TALK ENGLISH! YOU'RE ***AMERICANS*** FROM NOW ON!

THE DICKENS THEY ARE!

THE INFURIATED SEA PRINCE TAKES SPINE-TINGLING ACTION WITH SLEDGE-HAMMER BLOWS!

SO ***THAT'S*** THE GAME! SMUGGLING IN NAZIS!

YIPE!

BUT, WHILE NAMOR HAS HIS HANDS FULL, ONE GETS AWAY!

LUCKY I'M SUCH A GOOD SWIMMER - AND HAVE A BOAT STACHED!

SO - WHEN SUB-MARINER BRINGS HIS QUARRY ASHORE...

HANG IT ALL!... BRIGGS ESCAPED! I'LL QUESTION ***THIS*** BUNCH! THEY MIGHT GIVE ME A LEAD TO HIM!

YOU'VE BEEN DOING A THRIVING BUSINESS, USING THIS ESTATE FOR SMUGGLING IN NAZIS! ...WHAT ABOUT RAYMOND MARLIN? WAS ***HE*** IN ON THIS?

NO, BUT HE FOUND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON! HE KICKED, AND WE KILLED HIM!

THEN TED ***DIDN'T*** KILL HIS UNCLE!

BUT WHY DID TED CONFESS?

WE DON'T KNOW, BUT WE THINK IT HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH BOB MARLIN'S COMING BACK!

BOB MARLIN? WASN'T HE TED'S COUSIN WHO DROWNED?

ONLY HE DIDN'T DROWN, AND HE CAME BACK ***ALIVE!***

UMM... WITH RAYMOND MURDERED, TED OUT OF THE WAY, BOB WOULD BE SOLE EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE! I THINK I KNOW THE WAY THIS WORKED! I'LL SIGNAL THE HARBOR PATROL!

SOON

TAKE CHARGE HERE! THIS IS A HOT CARGO OF SMUGGLED NAZIS AND THEIR SMUGGLERS! I'VE GOT TO SEE THE SHERIFF - TO CLEAN UP THE MURDER OF RAYMOND MARLIN!

AT THE SHERIFF'S HOME.

SHERIFF, HIDE ME! DO SOMETHING! SUB-MARINER'S ON TO THE SMUGGLING BUSINESS! ***HE'S AFTER ME!***

I HOPE HE COMES HERE! AND GETS ME OUT OF THIS!

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU NABBED ME! WHY DO YOU HOLD ME PRISONER?

SHUT UP, TED MAR-LIN!

YOU'RE THE ONES SHUTTING UP!

AS SOON AS I TIE YOU BOTH UP!

SUB-

FISH... UGH!

SHORTLY

BOB MARLIN POSING AS TED, CONFESSED THE MURDER DIDN'T HE? I FIGURED THAT ESPECIALLY SINCE JOAN WASN'T ALLOWED TO SEE HIM!

WE WERE AFRAID SHE'D SEE THROUGH THE IMPERSONA-TION! WE PLANNED TO PUT BOB ON TRIAL! THEN SUBSTI-TUTE TED TO PAY THE MURDER PENALTY!

NOT LONG AFTER AT BOB MARLIN'S CELL-

SHERIFF, IS THAT YOU? OH! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I BRING YOU COMPANY ... ONLY YOU WON'T OCCUPY THIS CELL-BLOCK LONG! THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL DEAL WITH YOU!

ANOTHER DAY

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, SUB-MARINER, AND BELIEVE YOU ME, THERE'LL BE NO SMUGGLING OF *ANY* KIND HERE!

I KNOW THE ESTATE'S IN GOOD HANDS! AND GOOD LUCK!

THE END

LET'S PLAY DETECTIVE

3092

"MURDER BROUGHT ME TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNDERWORLD'S MOUTHPIECE...GABRIEL HALLIDAY! MR. HALLIDAY HAD BEEN BEATEN TO DEATH! I QUESTIONED THE LIVING MEMBER OF THE FIRM OF HALLIDAY AND KROLL, ATTORNEYS AT LAW!

SURE, McCOY! HE WAS ***ALIVE*** WHEN I LEFT HIM LAST EVENING! WHEN I OPENED THE OFFICE THIS MORNING, I FOUND HIM-DEAD!

"AND THEN SOMEONE ENTERED - IT WAS FRANKIE GARDIN, A CLEVER FORGER RECENTLY RELEASED FROM PRISON..."

HELLO, McCOY! I CAME AS SOON AS I HEARD ON THE RADIO ABOUT GABE'S MURDER! HE WAS MY FRIEND, AS WELL AS MY ATTORNEY!

WELL-WELL! FRANKIE GARDIN! ***COME*** IN AND JOIN THE PARTY!

"I QUESTIONED GARDIN, AND ASKED HIM THE USUAL ROUTINE QUESTIONS..."

I WAS OUT OF TOWN WHEN GABRIEL WAS MURDERED! BOSTON, TO BE EXACT! IN FACT, I SENT GABE A LETTER! THE ***POSTMARK*** WILL ***PROVE*** THAT!

"WE FOUND GARDIN'S LETTER STILL UNOPENED..."

BOSTON MASS JUNE 31 47

el Halliday
West 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

"I HAD ***TWO*** SUSPECTS... DAN KROLL, HALLIDAY'S PARTNER, AND FRANKIE GARDIN..."

"... WHEN SUDDENLY I ***KNEW*** WHO THE KILLER WAS!"

YOUR STORY ***WON'T*** DO, GARDIN! ***YOU KILLED GABRIEL HALLIDAY!***

"AND IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE GARDIN WAS SINGING!"

BEFORE I WAS SENT UP, I LEFT $20,000 IN GABE'S HANDS! I ***TRUSTED*** HIM! BUT WHEN I GOT OUT OF THE PEN, I CAME TO COLLECT! HE LAUGHED AND SAID THE 20 GRAND ***JUST COVERED HIS FEE!*** I HIT HIM AGAIN AND AGAIN! BUT HOW DID ***YOU KNOW*** I WAS ***GUILTY?***

BY THAT LETTER YOU PLANTED TO ESTABLISH YOUR ALIBI! YOU DID A NEAT JOB IN ***FORGING*** THAT POSTMARK- BUT YOU MADE ***ONE MISTAKE... JUNE*** HAS ONLY ***30 DAYS,*** AND YOUR LETTER WAS POSTMARKED ***JUNE 31ST!*** IT WAS THEN THAT I ***KNEW*** YOU WERE ***GUILTY!***

POLIC
HEAD
51

TURN PAGE UPSIDE DOWN FOR SOLUTION...

STAMP NEWS

By KENT B. STILES

Use of postage stamps to commemorate events of historical significance and happenings in careers of past and living persons is more and more becoming popular with Governmental postal administrations. During 1947, for example, more than one-fourth of all stamps issued are commemoratives, released in more than seventy-countries; and indications are that the same pace will be maintained during 1948. Here are just a few samples of what collectors may expect this year in the way of commemoratives:

At Washington will be printed a "Four Chaplains Memorial" stamp honoring the four chaplains, each an Army First Lieutenant, who gave their lives when the transport Dorchester was torpedoed in the North Atlantic in February, 1943. They were George L. Fox, Methodist; Alexander Goode, Jewish; Clark V. Poling, Baptist; John P. Washington, Roman Catholic. They were last seen with arms locked, and praying, as the ship foundered. They had given their life jackets to soldiers. The stamp will be issued partly "in the interest of religious tolerance."

Great Britain will commemorate the silver wedding anniversary of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth on April 26 with 2½-pence and 1 pound stamps. In May will appear 1p and 2½p to mark an anniversary of the liberation of the Channel Islands from German occupation during the war. In July there will be 2½p, 3p, 6p and 1-shilling items for the Olympic Games. Several other Governments are postally commemorating the sports contests.

An April issue scheduled by Czechoslovakia comprises 1.50-korona, 2k and 3k stamps to mark the 600th anniversary of the establishing of Charles University by Charles IV (1316-1378), in Prague.

Canal Zone is issuing on April 17 a 10-cent stamp for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the creation of the Canal Zone Biographical Area, on Barro Colorado Island in man-made Gatun Lake. The region is one where flora and fauna of a tropical forest are preserved and made accessible to scientists for study.

TRIANGLES-SOMALILAND-NYASALAND! FREE!
Choco GIANT & MIDGET TRIANGLES, British Nyasaland, Italian Somaliland, Queensland, Corsica, Polynesia "Head Hunter", Eagle, Holy Grail, "antique" Dead Land, etc. ALL FREE with approvals. Send 3c postage.
Hartop Stamp Co., 10-M Park Drive W., W. Orange, N.J.

BRAZIL "U. S. ARMY" STAMP — 30 OTHERS!
4 Colored Brazil showing U. S. Army Insignia; also Morocco (Harem), Indonesia, Moyen Congo, Abyssinia, Dead Land, Mussolini "Hate" stamp, others in LOT 31 DIFF —ONLY 5c. Approvals
Crane Stamp Co., 592 Prospect Pl., Brooklyn 16, N. Y.

SAMOA-TRANSJORDANIA-ICELAND
Also Epirus, Manchuria, Croatia, Monte Carlo, Jerusalem, Uganda, Tanganyika, Morocco, Desert Harem, Kenya, Araby Shiek, Elephant Tusk & Stork Stamp, Middle Congo, Jungleland, etc. ALL 5c. Approvals.
Tri-Cities Stamp Shop, 39 Frederick St., Johnson City, N.Y.

31 DIFFERENT WITH TRIANGLE AND JESUS!
Lot includes Liberia Airmail TRIANGLE, Vatican showing JESUS CHRIST, also Tanganyika, Alsace, Corsica, 65 yr. old Natal, Tri-colors, Africans, Colonials, etc. ALL ONLY 5c. Approvals.
Seneca Stamp Exchange, Box 94-M, Stanley, N. Y.

FREE Falklands "South Pole" stamp, Australia "MacArthur", Andorra, Columbus Ship, queer San Marino "2 in 1" stamp, Ellas "Gold" Stamp, Wallis, Futuna, Convict & Midget Isles, etc. ALL FREE for 3c postage. Approvals.
RAU STAMPS, 1509 DEWEY AVE., NORTHAMPTON, PA.

RUSSIAN "BERLIN BEAR" STAMP — FREE!
Odd "Berlin Occupation" Bolshevik issue; also $4.00 U. S., Guiana, Anzac, 50 yr. old Guatemala, Morocco Airmail, Vatican "Pope", Devil's Island, "She Wolf", Savage, etc. ALL FREE for 3c postage. Approvals.
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Williams Stamps, Bx. 381-M, T.C.U. Sta. Ft. Worth, Tex.

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Bakeady Stamp Co., 3214 Logan Ave., Youngstown 4, O.

TANNOU TOUVA TRIANGLE — 30 OTHERS!
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Redlands, California
WRITE TODAY

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THE THING HE FORGOT

THE little automatic was in Rod Rance's jacket pocket. It bumped against his hip as he paddled. He had gotten it by a fortunate circumstance. No one knew he had it. No one would ever know.

Young Rance was a big, powerful fellow—handsome, dark-haired. He sat now on the stern seat of the canoe, using a single paddle with skillful, rhythmic strokes. His Uncle, James Horner, was reclining on cushions in the bow, facing him. The little mountain lake, shimmered with full moonlight. The time was about midnight.

"You paddle very well, Rod," Horner remarked out of a silence. He was a thin, grey-haired man of fifty. A wealthy man, he wrote a daily newspaper column which was widely syndicated. He got out his pipe and lighted it, smiling at his nephew. He was being sarcastic, but Rance was too preoccupied to notice it.

"Thanks," Rance said. Queer, that he should be so short of breath, just from this little exercise! Or was he frightened? He wasn't going to use the automatic; he had told himself that a dozen times.

"We're almost back home," Horner said. "How far you think we've been—five miles maybe?"

"Guess so," Rance said. He couldn't seem to summon words; his head was bursting with thoughts—Horner was in a good mood now. The thing ought to get settled tonight. Suddenly, it seemed to Rance as though all his future life hung on this.

The automatic bumped his hip again. It sent a shudder through him, because abruptly he knew that if he couldn't get the money any other way, he was going to kill James Horner. He'd have the money then. He was in James Horner's will for twice the ten thousand he so desperately needed now. It would have to be done. He'd promised Vivian he'd take her out of the chorus line and marry her. He didn't want to lose Vivian. But even worse than that, he knew he was desperately afraid of Baldy Sullivan. Rance's I.O.U.'s to Baldy and his friends, were up to six thousand now. You couldn't legally collect a gambling debt, but Baldy had said they'd have to be paid now—or else. Rance very well knew what that meant.

"What's the matter, Rod? You ought to be very pleased with yourself—so handsome, so skillful with a paddle. And you're a good dancer, too, aren't you?"

Now Rance realized that his Uncle was sarcastic. His anger sprang.

"I don't get you," he said. "What you want to do, pick a fight with me?"

"I've been wondering when you're going to get a job," Horner said. He was still casually ironic. "You went into town today. When you asked me out for a canoe ride tonight, I thought maybe we were going to discuss it. I've been waiting."

"Nothing happened in town today," Rance said. "Anyway, it's my business, and——"

"And it's sort of my business, too," Horner cut in with a snap. "To be blunt, Rod, I'm fed up supporting you."

So *that* was it! The worst possible preface to Rance's try at real money, but now he had to plunge ahead with it. "I—I want to do something big," he heard himself saying. "Like I told you last week, if you'll advance me a part of my inheritance——"

No possible chance! It was obvious! Horner looked incredulous, and then he snorted. "Hah! Wouldn't that be nice? Set you up in business, so you can make a fortune! Don't kid me, Rod!"

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SPECIALTIES MFG. CO., Dept. 54 E
1367 N. Sedgwick Chicago 10, Ill.

Rance was hardly conscious that he had whipped out the little automatic. The canoe was in the shadows of the tree-lined lake shore, with the blob of the railed front of Horner's rustic pavilion-boathouse jutting out close ahead of them.

Horner was startled as Rance dropped his paddle into the bottom of the canoe; then he saw the gleaming little gun.

He gasped, "Why—why, Rod——" He tried to get up. The canoe rocked. Rance's first shot missed! The canoe was wildly rocking. In the chaos, Rance ejected the shell and fired again. Got him! The bullet went into Horner's heart. For just a second he tottered. Then his body fell sidewise. By some miracle it cleared the canoe gunwale, struck the water with a splash. It fell between the canoe and the railed front of the little rustic pavilion.

Finished! The canoe had almost overturned. Rance balanced it, sat panting. Everything was all right. Nobody was up at the house. Nobody knew he and Horner had gone out together. There were no near neighbors, except Rollins, an old farmer who lived nearby.

Then, suddenly panic swept Rance. Up through the trees, Rollins was shouting! "That you down there, Mr. Horner? What's the matter?"

Rollins was coming at a run. Rance couldn't see him; the trees were too thick. But he'd be here in a minute! Thoughts are instant things. Rance knew, then, what he had to do. Swiftly he wiped off the gun handle with the tail of his jacket, and he tossed the gun up on the floor of the pavilion. He knew the oncoming Rollins couldn't see him yet. He shouted,

"It's Mr. Horner! He's in the lake—somebody—somebody shot him! Quick, Rollins! C'mere! Quick! Help me! Maybe he's not dead yet!"

The old farmer had been to the movies in town, and was coming home by the shortcut path when he heard the shots and the splash of the body. He didn't suspect anything! He came dashing out onto the pavilion floor to see the panting Rance out in the canoe, trying to get to the body.

"I was paddling along the shore!" Rance gasped. "I saw Mr. Horner up there in the pavilion. The shadowy figure of a man was with him! Then, I saw the flash of the shots! Mr. Horner's body fell over the rail—and the killer ran!"

Simple enough! Old Rollins suspected nothing. There was only a few feet of water here. Together, they fished up the body; stretched it on the landing slope beside the pavilion. Then, they ran to the house, and phoned for the local police.

"I was in the canoe, coming along the shore, Sergeant. Fifty feet from the pavilion, maybe. Like I told you, I suddenly saw the shadow blob of the killer. Mr. Horner was standing by the low front rail. His body went over. I heard the killer's gun clatter as he dropped it to the pavilion floor. Then he ducked away."

This fellow was Police Sergeant Murdock. The scene here at the moonlit pavilion and boathouse was eerie with shadows, and the flashlights of the policemen as they poked about, looking for clues.

"He fired two shots," Murdock said. "First one missed, second went into Horner's heart. Then the killer wiped off his fingerprints from the gun handle, dropped it and ran."

"Foxy fellow," Rance murmured. Rance was calm now, and triumphant. His story was okay. Nobody could prove anything different. That's what he thought! But then came the bombshell!

One of the policemen was poking around the canoe where it lay on the boathouse slope. He called the Sergeant. They looked at something with their flashlight. Then they looked at the gun again. And now Murdock was confronting Rance. He was grim, menacing; his eyes flashed.

"When the killer fired that first shot," he said, "he had to eject the empty shell before he fired the second. The shell fell to his feet, and he forgot it! I guess maybe you don't know enough about ballistics, Rance! A gun marks the bullet it fires, with individual markings! And it also marks the shell! Individual markings by the firing pin, and other things."

The Sergeant was holding out his hand. Numbly, Rance stared at the little empty shell lying in his palm. "Too bad you didn't remember to toss this up to the pavilion, when you tossed up the gun," Murdock said. "But you didn't! You left it lying in the stern of the canoe where you were sitting! We've got you! No argument on that!"

So simple, so fatal a little thing that he forgot!

THE END

SL-2975

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THEY'RE ALL SICK, MR. DRUM. THERE'S AN EPIDEMIC OF MUMPS GOING AROUND!

MUMPS! BAH! AN INFANTILE DISEASE! WELL, I CERTAINLY AM **NOT** GOING TO TEACH CIVICS TO **ONE** PUPIL! CLASS DISMISSED!

MAYBE IT'S JUST AS WELL! MY JAW FEELS TOO SORE FOR A LONG LECTURE!

GOOD HEAVENS! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY FACE? IT **CAN'T** BE THE **MUMPS**--I'M TOO OLD FOR THAT! BUT IF PEOPLE SAW ME LIKE THIS, THEY'D --ER-- MISUNDERSTAND!

ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE TROUBLED HALLS OF LEARNING IS A LESS ELEGANT ESTABLISHMENT WHERE, AT THIS VERY MOMENT...

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DON'T WORRY, BOSS! I'LL GET IT!

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While outside...

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A QUICK CHANGE IN A SIDE ALLEY, AND BUCKY, THE STUDENT, BECOMES A CRIME-FIGHTING THUNDER-BOLT ϟ!ϟ

MIND IF I THROW YOUR WEIGHT AROUND?

COME ON, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!

GLUG!

YOU'RE NOT LEAVING WITHOUT ANY ICE CREAM, ARE YOU?

IT DON'T AGREE WIT' ME--OOOPS!

THIS AIN'T NO TIME FOR REFRESHMENTS!

THE POLICE ARRIVE ON THE SCENE, AND..

OKAY, BUCKY! WE'LL TAKE OVER NOW! CHEEKS WON'T GET FAR WITH US COMBING THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

WITH THAT FACE, SOMEONE'S SURE TO SPOT HIM!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, BUCKY MEETS SUBSTITUTE TEACHER STEVE ROGERS AT THE SCHOOL...

...SO CHEEKS GOT AWAY, BUT THE OWNER GAVE ME A SEASON PASS TO HIS DOUBLE FUDGE SUNDAE!

NICE WORK, BUCKY! SORRY I MISSED IT. I'D BETTER STOP INTO THE OFFICE NOW AND SEE IF THERE HAVE BEEN ANY CALLS FOR SUBSTITUTES!

MR. DRUM HASN'T SHOWN UP FOR HIS 3 O'CLOCK CLASS! IT'S STRANGE, TOO! HE **WAS** HERE AND HASN'T CHECKED OUT!

HE PROBABLY FORGOT THE TIME! I'LL GO UP TILL HE GETS THERE!

FORGOTTEN THE TIME? NOT A BIT OF IT!

ONLY 3:10! I CAN'T LEAVE TILL THE SCHOOL CLOSES WITHOUT BEING SEEN! WELL, I'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT IN THE BASEMENT!

ULP! OH, IT'S ONLY A MIRROR! GRACIOUS! DO I LOOK **THAT** BAD?

WHA--? OH, A MIRROR! I WOULDA SWORE THAT WAS A DOOR!

MY! I STARTLED MYSELF!

WHEW--IT'S HOT DOWN HERE!

OH, MY HAT! EEEK! IT'S A MAN!

HUH? YOU AIN'T ME!

EXCUSE ME! MUSTN'T KEEP MY STUDENTS WAITING!

HEY! HOLD ON! IF YOU KIN MAKE **ME** THINK YOU'RE ME, HOW'LL THE **COPS** EVER KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

THERE'S A DRAG-NET OUT FOR ME, AND **YOU'RE** GONNA LEAD A LOT OF COPPERS UP A BLIND ALLEY WHILE I MAKE A GETAWAY!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! IF I'M SEEN IN MY PRESENT CONDITION, I'LL BE RIDICULED OUT OF SCHOOL!

8 OVER HIS PROTESTS, MR. DRUM IS RUDELY FORCED INTO THE OPEN..

WHAT AN AWFUL PREDICAMENT! I SHOULD GIVE MY-SELF UP TO THE POLICE, BUT I'M JUST TOO EM-BARRASSED!

HEY! THERE HE GOES!

AS THE NEIGHBORHOOD RESOUNDS TO THE CLOSING DRAGNET...

THAT'S HIM! HE'S IN THE PLAYGROUND!

TW-E-E-E-E-T!

ER--SOUNDS LIKE-- ER--TROUBLE! MSGEE-- TAKE OVER THE CLASS! I'M GOING TO THE-- ER--OFFICE! BUCKY, YOU HAD BETTER ACCOMPANY ME!

SECONDS LATER, TEACHER AND STUDENT EMERGE AS CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY!

WHERE'D HE GO?

THAT WAY!

HE'S MAKING FOR THE STREET BEHIND THE PLAYGROUND! KEEP AFTER HIM! I'LL TRY TO HEAD HIM OFF!

A BEE LINE IS THE SHORTEST DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO POINTS!

I'LL BET CHEEKS DOESN'T EXPECT AN AERIAL ATTACK!

DIDYA CATCH HIM? HE CAME INTO THIS BLOCK!

NO! I THOUGHT **YOU** HAD HIM! HE **COULDN'T** HAVE GOTTEN PAST ME!

COULD THOSE SHARP EYES PEERING OUT FROM UNDER A MANHOLE COVER BELONG TO THE AUSTERE SCHOOL TEACHER?

I HAD MY EYE ON HIM FROM THE TIME HE CAME OUT OF THE BACK DOOR OF THE SCHOOL! I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW WE COULDA LOST HIM!

IT BEATS ME! CAME OUT OF THE SCHOOL, EH?

THIS IS UNDIGNIFIED, BUT I MUST ADMIT IT'S EXCITING! WHEN I STUDIED THE CITY'S SEWER SYSTEM, I LITTLE THOUGHT I'D BE USING MY KNOWLEDGE TO EVADE DETECTION!

IF MY MEMORY SERVES ME, THE NEXT EXIT SHOULD COME OUT IN THE ALLEY, BEHIND MY HOUSE! ANYWAY, I'LL BE CLEAR OF THE DRAGNET!

MEANWHILE, FOLLOWING THEIR SLENDER CLUE, CAP AND BUCKY INVESTIGATE THE SCHOOL BASEMENT....

EVEN IF HE DID HIDE OUT DOWN HERE, WHAT CAN WE HOPE TO FIND NOW?

YOU NEVER CAN TELL WHERE A CLUE MAY TURN UP... HELLO--WHAT'S THAT?

SAY! LOOK AT THE NAME IN IT! OTTO DRUM! WHAT COULD ... HIS HAT BE DOING DOWN HERE?

WOW! I COMPLETELY FORGOT THAT HE DISAPPEARED, TOO! BUT IF HE WAS DOWN HERE WITH CHEEKS, HE MAY BE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE!

TROUBLE, CAP? YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT!

.....

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE CAUSE OF IT ALL, CHEEKS CHADWICK

?

I'D NEVER HAVE GOT AWAY FROM THE COPS WITHOUT THAT LUCKY BREAK. WHAT BEATS ME IS HOW THE OLD GOAT ESCAPED!

BARGAIN NIGHT IN A DAME'S STORE! WHAT A SETUP! PLENTY OF DOUGH AN' NO ONE TO ARGUE WITH A GUN! ONLY THOSE COPS WOULD SPOT ME BEFORE I COULD CROSS THE STREET!

The Ladies Mart

61

HMM...IF I COULD PERSUADE THE PROF. TO HELP ME AGAIN... LET'S SEE THESE PAPERS IN HIS JACKET!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, AN UNWILLING HOST IS SUMMONED FROM HIS BED...

HEY, PROF:-- OPEN UP!

B-Z-Z-Z

BR-RING

WHO CAN THAT BE? I WISH PEOPLE WOULD LEAVE ME ALONE! I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE ME!

GO AWAY! I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE!

OH, OH-- SOMEONE'S COMING IN! I GOTTA HIDE IN THIS BROOM CLOSET!

B-Z-Z-Z

6

I DON'T CARE WHO IT IS! I'M NOT OPENING THE DOOR TO ANYONE!

SOUNDS LIKE WE'RE EXPECTED BUT NOT VERY WELCOME!

WE'RE GOING IN EVEN IF WE HAVE TO BREAK THE DOOR DOWN!

BOTH TOGETHER, NOW!

RIGHT! WE'LL GIVE IT THE OLD HEAVE-HO!

BUT AS THE DUO RACES IN UNISON THROUGH THE DARKENED HALL, A MOP IS THRUST ACROSS THEIR PATH!

OHH!

UGH!

BOP!

GRACIOUS! WHAT'S GOING ON? OH, IT'S YOU!

THAT'S RIGHT, PROF! DON'T TRY TO CLOSE THAT DOOR AGAIN! DRAG THESE GUYS IN AND GET ME SOME ROPE TO TIE 'EM WITH!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

OUCH...MY HEAD! WHERE ARE WE?

I DON'T KNOW. I SEEM TO REMEMBER WE STARTED TO HIT A DOOR, AND THEN IT HIT US!

LOOK, CAP! IT'S CHEEKS CHADWICK! HE MUST HAVE GOT THE PROF. AND NOW HE'S GOT US, TOO!

B-BUT I'M NOT...

I'M CHEEKS CHADWICK!

JIMMINY! TWO OF 'EM!

WHO ARE YOU?

I'M OTTO DRUM, A TEACHER! I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING! ER-- THAT IS, I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW ALL THIS CAME ABOUT!

YOU RUFFIAN, YOU! I DON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE WITH YOU!

SHADDUP! MY GUN CAN TALK LOUDER THAN YOU COULD SHOUT! HOP INTO YOUR BEST CLOTHES. WE GOT AN APPOINTMENT DOWN AT THE LADIES MART!

I'M SORRY TO LEAVE YOU LIKE THIS! PERHAPS YOU'D ER--FIND THE BRIDGES MOST INTERESTING!

HO! HO! A COMEDIAN! GET GOIN'!

CAN YA BEAT THAT? THE PROF. GOES TO A STICKUP CRACKING JOKES!

IT CERTAINLY SOUNDED THAT WAY, BUT I HAD A FEELING HE WAS TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING!

LOOK! THAT MUST BE THE BRIDGE HE MEANT!

SO WHAT? THE PROF. HAS A MODEL FOR REBUILDING EVERYTHING IN TOWN!

WITH A DEXTEROUS TWIST, CAP RAISES HIS LEGS AND KICKS OUT!

THERE'S ONLY **ONE** WAY TO FIND OUT! **HERE GOES!**

SEE? THIS BRIDGE IS A WORKING MODEL! DRUM MUST'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL US THAT THESE GEARS WOULD GRIND OFF OUR ROPES!

IT OPERATES WHEN I LEAN ON THIS SWITCH!

R-R-RIP!

MEAN-WHILE, THE HEAVY-CHEEKED "COMPANIONS" MAKE THEIR WAY TO THEIR GOAL...

P-PLEASE LET ME GO! I'LL BE RUINED IF I'M CAUGHT IN SUCH A NEFARIOUS UNDERTAKING!

ALL YA GOTTA DO IS RUN FAST! THOSE FLATFEET WON'T SHOOT IN A CROWD! ON YER WAY!

WELL, FOR THE LUVVA-- CHEEKS CHADWICK! HEY, YOU!

HALT OR I'LL SHOOT!

HOLD YOUR FIRE! YOU MIGHT HIT SOMEONE!

TWEE-E-E-T!

RACING BLINDLY THROUGH THE CROWDS, MR. DRUM FINDS HIMSELF HEADING INTO A DESERTED SIDESTREET...

(PUFF--PUFF)--MUST GET AWAY-- NEVER (PUFF)--CONVINCE ANYONE--

HE'S IN THE CLEAR! I CAN PLUG HIM NOW!

I'LL GET... OOOPS!

BANG!

CRASH!

Then...

CAPTAIN AMERICA!

WHAT'S THE IDEA? CHEEKS'LL GET AWAY!

THAT'S NOT CHEEKS YOU'RE CHASING! I'LL ANSWER FOR HIM! BUT WE'LL HAVE TO STEP ON IT IF WE WANT TO GET OUR MAN!

MEANWHILE...

THANKS FOR THE DONATION, LADIES! NOW, IF ALL OF YOU STAY JUST WHERE YOU ARE, NOBODY'LL GET HURT!

NOBODY BUT YOU!

WHA...? HOW DID...?

YOU AIN'T GOT ME YET!

STEP ON IT, BUCKY! HE'S SLIPPERY!

DON'T WORRY! I'LL GET HIM, CAP!

ZING!

OOF!

THIS'LL STOP CHEEKS! I'M GLAD YOU'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME, BUCKY, BUT WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

SOK!

HO! HO! HA! HA! I WAS JUST THINKING OF THE OLD PROF! HE LOOKS JUST LIKE CHEEKS! HA! HA! AND AFTER ALL HE SAID ABOUT MUMPS! HO! HO!

HO-OUCH! THAT'S FUNNY! MY JAW FEELS A LITTLE STIFF! MUST'VE LAUGHED TOO LOUD!

HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? MY CHEEKS....

LATER...

Y' KNOW, STEVE, I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE PROF. FELT! I WISH YOU WOULDN'T LET ANYONE KNOW I'VE GOT THE MUMPS, HUH?

HA, HA! I WON'T TALK! AS FAR AS YOU AND THE PROF. ARE CONCERNED, MUMP'S THE WORD!

THE END

BLONDE PHANTOM

starring in

"PERSONAL APPEARANCE FOR MURDER!"

THIS IS A STICK-UP, FOLKS! AND DON'T THINK *THE BLONDE PHANTOM'S* GONNA HELP YOU!

YEAH! SHE'S ONLY ON THE *SCREEN,* THANK GOODNESS!

1591

THE DRAMA OF THE SCREEN CAN NOT EQUAL THE VALOR OF THE REAL-LIFE BLONDE PHANTOM WHEN THE BEAUTIFUL CRIME FIGHTER SEEKS TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF CRIME AT THE MOVIES!

DO YOU REALIZE, MARK, THAT THIS IS THE *FIRST* TIME WE'VE EVER GONE OUT TOGETHER, EXCEPT ON BUSINESS?

UH HUH-

SAY, LOOK, LOUISE! HERE'S A PICTURE PLAYING BASED ON THE EXPLOITS OF THE BLONDE PHANTOM! LET'S SEE IT!

OH, MARK - IT'S *ALWAYS* THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

BLONDE PHANTOM

AS LOUISE ANGRILY LEAVES MARK, TWO STRANGE FIGURES WATCH THE ACE DETECTIVE...

I'M SORRY, MARK! I'M TIRED OF ALWAYS PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE TO THE BLONDE PHANTOM! I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW!

BUT, LOUISE...

IS THAT *HIM*, TOOTHPICK?

THAT'S HIM, EIGHTBALL!

I JUST CAN'T FIGURE WOMEN OUT!

LET'S GO, EIGHT-BALL!

OH! DEAR! MY HAIR IS SIMPLY A FRIGHT!

THEY MUST BE ON MARK'S TRAIL! THEY VOWED VENGEANCE UPON HIM WHEN THEY WERE CONVICTED!

AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, LOUISE SEES THE REFLECTION OF THE TWO STRANGERS IN THE STORE WINDOW!

GOSH! COULD SWEAR THOSE TWO CHARACTERS ARE TOOTH-PICK TWILLIGER AND EIGHT-BALL OLSON, THE ESCAPED CONVICTS WHOM MARK CAUGHT TWO MONTHS AGO!

HA!

THOSE TWO ARE KILLERS! I'VE GOT TO WARN MARK - BUT WHERE *IS* HE?

IF I CAN ONLY FIND HIM! THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THOSE... THOSE KILLERS WILL DO!

DOWN IN FRONT!

YOU'RE BLOCKING THE SCREEN!

WE CAME HERE TO SEE THE BLONDE PHANTOM - NOT *YOU!*

*BUT UNKNOWN TO LOUISE GRANT, MARK MASON **DID** KNOW THAT HE WAS BEING FOLLOWED...*

IF TOOTH-PICK AND EIGHT-BALL THINK I DIDN'T SEE THEM, THEY'RE GONNA BE *VERY* SURPRISED!

OH! THERE THEY ARE - AND THERE'S MARK SITTING NEAR THEM!

IT'S TIME THE BLONDE PHANTOM STEPPED IN!

AND THIS TIME IT *REALLY IS* TIME THAT THE BLONDE PHANTOM STEPPED IN!

*IN A MATTER OF SECONDS, A GOLDEN-HAIRED VISION RACES ACROSS THE REAR OF THE THEATRE FROM WHERE LOUISE GRANT HAD **BEEN** STANDING!*

I'VE GOT TO GET TO MARK BEFORE HE'S MURDERED!

TOOTH-PICK HAS GOT A GUN! MARK! LOOK OUT!

THAT VOICE- THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

TOOTH-PICK, SHOOT, QUICK! IT'S THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

BLONDE PHANTOM, STAY AWAY! I KNOW WHAT- OOOOH!

BANG!

BECAUSE OF THE BLONDE PHANTOM'S CRY, MARK MASON'S ATTENTION IS TURNED FROM THE TWO KILLERS AND...

MY SHOULDER...

THEY WOUNDED HIM! HE KNEW THEY WERE AFTER HIM! OH- IF I HADN'T CRIED OUT, HE'D HAVE DEFENDED HIMSELF! IT'S MY FAULT!

TERRIFIED BY THE BLONDE PHANTOM, THE TWO KILLERS DARE NOT LINGER TO FINISH THEIR DEADLY JOB!

COME ON, EIGHT-BALL! MAKE TRACKS!

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

IT'S A MURDER!

GOOD HEAVENS!

SOMEONE GET A DOCTOR- QUICKLY!

I MUST QUIET THE CROWD OR THERE'LL BE A PANIC! — PEOPLE WILL BE TRAMPLED IN THE RUSH - AND I'VE GOT TO CATCH THOSE TWO KILLERS!

ONLY ONE THING TO DO!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN- DON'T BE ALARMED! THIS IS ALL A PUBLICITY STUNT TO ADVERTISE THE NEXT BLONDE PHANTOM FEATURE! I MUST ASK THE USHERS NOT TO ALLOW ANYONE TO LEAVE THE THEATER FOR THE NEXT 15 MINUTES!

LOOK! THE BLONDE PHANTOM IN PERSON! OH BOY, WOTTA TREAT!

WONDER WHY SHE SAID NOBODY'S TO LEAVE?

DUNNO, BUT WE'D BETTER DO WHAT SHE SAYS! SORRY, BOYS, CAN'T LETCHA OUT!

WHAT?

COME ON! WE'LL HIDE IN THE BOXES!

THERE THEY GO NOW!

NOW IF ALL YOU FOLKS WILL HOLD YOUR SEATS YOU'LL SEE A SPECIAL SURPRISE SHOW FOR YOUR BENEFIT!

FIRST, I'VE GOT TO TAKE A TRIP—

TO THE BOXES!

FOLLOW ME, MEN!

WILL WE! OH, BOY!

TO THE END OF THE WORLD IF YOU ASK US!

YIPE! SHE'S HERE ALREADY!

QUICK! BACK DOWN-STAIRS!

I HAVEN'T DONE *THIS* IN YEARS!

AND NOW, GENTLEMEN – I'LL RELIEVE YOU TWO OF YOUR WEAPONS AND LEAVE YOU IN THE CARE OF MY USHER FRIENDS UNTIL THE POLICE ARRIVE!

HOLY SMOKE! SHE AIN'T HUMAN!

DON'T SHOOT! WE GIVE UP!

A MINUTE LATER, BACK ON STAGE...

THAT'S HOW THE BLONDE PHANTOM *REALLY* DEALS WITH CRIMINALS! THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION, AND YOU MAY START THE SHOW AGAIN!

BOY! THAT WAS EXCITING!

AW, IT WAS ALL A FAKE! I LIKE HER BETTER IN PITCHERS AND IN THE MAGAZINES!

AND THE NEXT DAY...

TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT PICTURE WITH ME LAST NIGHT, LOUISE! THE BLONDE PHANTOM WAS WONDERFUL!

OH, I THINK SHE'S JUST AN OVERRATED HAM!

THE END

AMAZING! NEW!

ELECTRONIC JUKE-BOX BANK

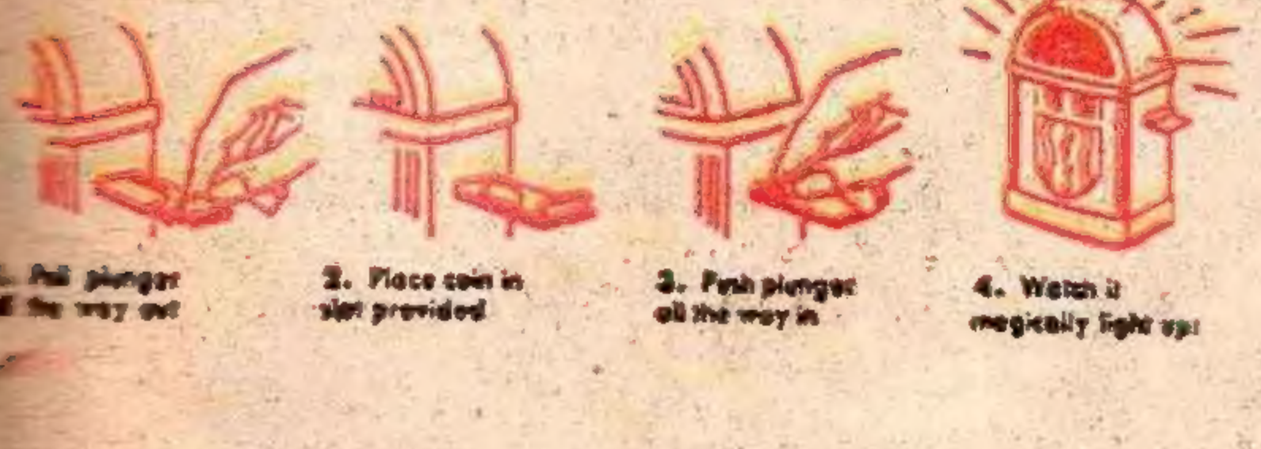
Now You Can Get a KICK out of Saving!

LIGHTS MAGICALLY!

WHEN COIN IS INSERTED

HERE is the most remarkable bank ever offered to the public. Imagine getting a bank that looks and works like a *real Juke Box*. It's great fun to insert coins from pennies up to quarters and watch the Juke Box Bank MAGICALLY LIGHT UP just like a real Juke Box would. Made of colorful plastic and metal, beautifully hand painted. Makes saving a pleasure.

only $1.69



1. Pull plunger all the way out
2. Place coin in slot provided
3. Push plunger all the way in
4. Watch it magically light up!

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Just send name and address. Pay postman $1.69 plus a few cents postage on delivery or send a check or money order, we pay postage. Inspect the Juke Box Bank for five days. If not delighted, return it and your money will be cheerfully refunded. Send your order NOW.

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Chicago, Ill.

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City ..... Zone ..... State .....

☐ I am enclosing $1.69. Send Juke Box Bank Prepaid.

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. . . : send $8.49 and we pay postage.

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